I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Attorney Docket No.: 018419-008320US

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 September 24, 2003 TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Sien G. Kang

Application No.: 09/893,340

Filed: June 26, 2001

For: SURFACE FINISHING OF SOI SUBSTRATES USING AN EPI

PROCESS

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No.: 2640

Examiner: Erik J. Kielin

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2813

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed September 24, 2002 and the Advisory Action mailed March 14, 2003 on the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.